

CHIEF FIGURE IN THE IMBODEN-PIERCE CASE.



LILLIE BELLE PIERCE. By a Republic Photographer.

Most recent picture of the woman who claims a widow's share in the large estate left by Luther E. Imboden. With moustache, hair, sharpened eyebrows and large black eyes, "Mrs. Imboden" is striking in appearance. She is 35 years old.

POPE ABLE TO EAT; SLEEP IS QUIETER.

His Holiness Takes Half a Cup of Soup, Some Toast and Wine.

CANCER REPORT GROUNDLESS.

Physicians Pronounce Story an Ignorant Invention—Preparations for Pontiff's Demise Continue at the Vatican.

Rome, July 18, 4:10 a. m.—After having some sleep the Pontiff appeared to be again restless and required the frequent assistance of Doctor Lippini and his valet, Centa.

Rome, July 17, 2:25 a. m.—The Pope is now reported to be in a somewhat quieter sleep than he had last night, although his breathing is perhaps not so easy.

TAKES NOURISHMENT.
Rome, July 17, Midnight.—The Pope to-night showed less aversion to the nourishment offered him and took half a cup of consommé, a piece of toast and a few sips of old wine.

SITS UP IN CHAIR.
Rome, July 17, 8:25 p. m.—"I cannot say the Pope is better, but he is no worse."

In these words Doctor Lippini summed up for the Associated Press this evening the Pontiff's condition at the end of the second week of his illness.

In the morning, after a night during which stimulants and nursing restored him to a fairly good condition, the Pope complained of soreness, due to the many days he had passed in bed. To relieve this, and to humor him, the patient was allowed to sit in his armchair for a short time, with apparently good effect. The celebration of a mass in honor of St. Leo and the Pope's conversation with Mr. Piffert were the only other incidents which today relieved the tedium of the sick chamber.

After the visit of the physicians the Pope received Cardinal Rampolla, who remained in the sickroom only a few minutes. He again gave the Pontiff a full report of the prayers offered in his behalf all over the world. His Holiness, raising both hands, said:

"I bless all those who pray to God for me."

In Vatican circles there is gossiping over the great reception given by Mr. Agazzi at Lisbon to celebrate his elevation to the Cardinalate, and over the solemnity with which Cardinal Agazzi today took possession of his new office of Vice-Chancellor of the church. The Associated Press correspondent, however, learned that the Pope himself in his last interview with Cardinal Agazzi urged the performance of to-day's ceremony.

PLOTTED AGAINST PORTUGUESE KING.

Several Officers of Fifth Infantry Regiment Have Been Arrested at Lisbon.

TROUBLE BEGAN LAST YEAR.

Rumors of Serious Discord, Even in the Royal Household, Have Disturbed Friends of the Existing Dynasty.

Berlin, July 17.—A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Lisbon says that several officers of the Fifth Portuguese Infantry have been arrested on the charge of conspiring against King Charles.

They will be tried by court-martial. Suspicion of a widespread conspiracy against the dynasty have been entertained for some time, the instigators being officers who have been cashiered.

Other regiments, it is said, are affected. **MUCH UNEASINESS.**

Following the assassination of the King and Queen of Serbia, which caused such intense excitement in Europe, the renewed rumors of designs on the ruling dynasty in Portugal have caused much uneasiness in the little country west of Spain.

Many have pointed out since the terrible ending of the Serbian troubles by the death of the royal couple that there was an apparent startling similarity in the rumors of the intrigues, army officers in both cases being at the bottom of the movement, according to report.

As far back as November, 1902, there were reports in Madrid, Spain, that a serious conspiracy was on foot in Portugal. Just what its object was did not appear, except that it boded no good to the existing order of things. There were differences of opinion as to whether it was the intention of the conspirators to form a regency or take more violent measures.

At that time it was said that well-known Portuguese General had stated that a regency was necessary. The Government, according to rumor, saw conspiracy on all sides, and serious developments were prophesied.

BEN DE BAR'S OLD PROPERTY DIVIDED.

Legatees of Famous Actor-Manager Knew Nothing of Land Owned in Cleveland.

DISCOVERED AFTER 25 YEARS.

Lawyer Located Two Granddaughters and an Adopted Daughter Through The Republic, Dividing \$15,000.

After remaining intact for twenty-five years without a claimant, the Cleveland, O., property of Ben De Bar, the St. Louis pioneer theatrical manager, who died a quarter of a century ago, has at last been sold, and \$15,000 divided among two granddaughters and an adopted daughter of the once-time famous comedian.

These heirs did not know that the property was in existence.

When Ben De Bar died in St. Louis in 1877, Colonel John G. Priest, who was then a famous lawyer of this city, became executor of the estate. In straightening up the affairs of the estate, Colonel Priest did not discover a piece of real estate in Cleveland, O., situated on the lake front. No claimant for the property appeared, and though no taxes were paid on it, it was not sold by the authorities because it had never been entered on the duplicate tax list.

In the summer of 1902 the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company desired to condemn the property for depot purposes, and in examining the abstract found that its late owner was Ben De Bar.

The officials of the company did not know who De Bar was, where he lived, or whether he was alive. A notice was published.

Edward Crane, a lawyer of Cincinnati, was handling a piece of property adjoining the De Bar property in Cleveland, and he wrote to Claud D. Hall, a lawyer in the Missouri Trust building, asking him to find the heirs of the estate.

LOCATED THROUGH REPUBLIC.
Mr. Hall was at a loss where to find a clue to the heirs, until he saw a character sketch of De Bar in The Republic of August 14, 1902, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of the famous theatrical manager.

Mr. Hall at once began to work on that clue, and after searching for nearly a year, he located the heirs and secured for them \$15,000 for the property.

He found that De Bar left one child, Lissette, who became the wife of James V. Dexter of Denver, founder of the Union Deposit and Trust Company of that city. Mrs. Lissette De Bar Dexter is dead, but she left two daughters, Harriet and Anna.

Harriet married Roland G. Parvin, now secretary and treasurer of the Union Deposit and Trust Company of Denver, and Anna is the wife of Richard R. Hauk, a wealthy miner of San Francisco.

Mr. Hall also found that Ben De Bar had adopted a child of his sister, who afterwards went by the name of Blanche De Bar. By the will this adopted child was made an heir of the St. Louis comedian and theatrical manager. She married John Brutus Booth, also an actor, who claimed relationship to the family of which Edwin Booth was a member.

Mrs. Blanche De Bar Booth was an actress, and often appeared in the same cast with her foster parents. She is still living, in Minneapolis, Minn. She also received a part of the \$15,000.

Ben De Bar came to St. Louis in 1838, and scoring a success in this city in "The School for Scandal," he formed an affection for St. Louis that lasted through life. After playing in the leading cities of the United States and England for seventeen years, he permanently located in St. Louis, and in the late fifties became proprietor of De Bar's Opera-house on Pine street between Third and Fourth streets. He also acquired an interest in theaters in New Orleans, Memphis and St. Paul, where he sold out his St. Louis theater and became part owner in the Grand Opera-house.

LEADING TOPICS

TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

- WEATHER CONDITIONS.**
For St. Louis and vicinity—Partly cloudy and cooler to-day; fresh southerly winds, shifting to northerly.
- For Missouri—Showers and cooler Saturday. Sunday fair, except showers in southeast.**
- Some Alleged Lee Letters Are Said to Be Forgeries.**
- Democratic City Committee to Meet.**
- Plotted Against Portuguese King.**
- Shot Detective as He Lay Dying.**
- Experts Friction in Foreign Trade.**
- Charged With Poisoning Woman.**
- Brady Dismissed From Police Force.**
- Says Imboden Referred to Miss Pierce as Wife.**
- Gould May Buy Lehigh Valley.**
- Forchard Won Like a Good Colt.**
- The Republic Form Chart.**
- Baseball News and Gossip.**
- Editorial.**
- Trouble Brewing in the National Guard.**
- Mrs. Cummings Asks for a New Trial.**
- Books of the Week.**
- Of Interest to Women.**
- Russians Blame England.**
- Says Mistake Was Made by Americans.**
- Insurance Cases Appealed.**
- Religious News and Announcements.**
- Christian Endeavor Topic.**
- Doctor H. M. Wharton to Open Tent Meeting.**
- Republic "Want" Ads.**
- Birth, Marriage and Death Records.**
- Rooms for Rent Ads.**
- Lost and Found.**
- Weekly Bank Statement.**
- Securities Range Higher on Local Exchange.**
- Wheat Displays Strength in Chicago.**
- Reaction in Wall Street Helps Prices Local Grains Regain Losses.**
- Mayor Considers Improvement Plans.**
- Urges Colombian Congress to Act.**
- Trade of Islands Is \$200,000,000.**
- Wed in Orphan's Home Where They Were Reared.**

OBJECT OF LATEST PLOT BY EUROPEAN ARMY MEN.



KING CHARLES (CARLOS) OF PORTUGAL. Whose dynasty army officers are accused of trying to overthrow, following the example of the Serbian revolutionists. The King's attitude toward religious orders, it is said, has been the cause of much discord, not only in the country at large, but even in the royal household.

PLAN TO CONVERT TRACKS INTO DIKES. DEMOCRATIC CITY COMMITTEE TO MEET.

Terminal's President Indorses Mayor Cook's Proposition to Protect East St. Louis.

COST WILL BE ABOUT \$500,000.

Scheme Involves Raising Levee Front, Changing Cahokia Creek's Course, Abandoning Viaduct and Lowering Broadway.

Mayor Silas Cook of East St. Louis is working on plans which have been submitted to City Engineer E. G. Helm for the immediate protection of the city of East St. Louis from the flood waters of the Mississippi River.

The plans, which would call for an expenditure of about \$500,000, primarily consist of raising the railroad tracks about East St. Louis and changing the course of the Cahokia Creek. It is also planned to depress Missouri avenue and Broadway.

Mayor Cook visited General Manager McCleskey of the Terminal Railroad Association yesterday afternoon and stated last evening that Mr. McCleskey was favorable to the plan of raising the tracks, especially about the Relay Station, and that he had promised that he would take up the question at the next meeting of the Terminal Railroad Association.

City Engineer Helm has two plans, which, if put into effect, would give East St. Louis double protection from future floods and also protect the railroad property, he states.

Mr. Helm's plan means much for the city, as the railroad companies would have to stand almost all of the expense, which, he says, will not amount to near as much as was generally supposed.

What Mr. Helm terms his big plan is to change the course of the Cahokia Creek near the National Stock Yards so that it would empty into the Mississippi River, below the East St. Louis waterworks.

The dirt that would be taken from the excavation for the bed of the creek would be almost sufficient when piled on the one side for a dike, which would run from the Levee front to the Cahokia Creek, and the tracks near the National Stock Yards and would protect this industry and also all of the railroad yards on what is known as the Island.

TO RAISE LEVEE FRONT.
The levee front of Front street would have to be raised from three to five feet in places within a few hundred yards of the Eads bridge.

Several hundred yards south of the Eads bridge the levee front would have to be raised, and this raise would have to be carried around to the rear of the Republic Railroad tracks, which would also have to be raised about three feet and strengthened for a distance of about two miles.

This plan, Mr. Helm says, would assure the city protection against the floods.

As an additional measure of precaution and also as a convenience to the railroads and the city of East St. Louis generally Mr. Helm proposes that the railroad raise their tracks in and near the Relay Station about five feet above the present level.

This would cut down the grade to the approach to the Eads bridge, so that instead of using two locomotives on this grade, the same loads could be drawn by one.

Mr. Helm also proposes to do away with the viaduct, which could be made possible by raising the tracks, where it now stands, about eight feet. The street could be lowered six feet at that point and could then be raised again. This plan also provides for depressing Missouri avenue at the Relay Station and thus doing away with one of the most dangerous crossings in the country.

The Relay Station would have to be raised as well as the tracks. The tracks would all have to be raised from five to eight feet from Cone Station on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, near Sixth street, down the Illinois Central to a point two miles outside the city limits.

ABANDON VIADUCT.
Under this plan it is necessary to do away with the Cahokia Creek, an undertaking which Mr. Helm has provided for in his first plan. The viaduct would have to be reconstructed, as it has all but fallen to pieces, and is now braced with heavy timbers.

FRANK H. RICKER IS MISSING FROM HOME.

Kirkwood Man and St. Louis Bank Employee Sought by His Friends.

FOUL PLAY GREATLY FEARED.

Had About \$90 and Was Last Seen Upon a Missouri Pacific Train Thursday Near Union Station.

Frank H. Ricker, member of a family well known in Kirkwood, St. Louis County, and who was employed at the National Bank of Commerce, disappeared Thursday morning, and since has not been heard from by his family and friends in Kirkwood.

Thursday he left home to come to the city on the Missouri Pacific train, leaving Kirkwood at 8 a. m. He was last seen by Orlick Albright, also of Kirkwood.

Albright is employed at the same bank. Ricker told him when on the train that he intended to visit his physician. He asked Albright to tell his superiors at the bank that he would not be down to business until late, and probably not at all. His physician was Doctor A. V. L. Brokaw.

Albright parted from him as the train backed into Union Station. Ricker was then sitting in his seat. Albright asked him if he felt sick, to which a negative response was returned. Doctor Brokaw says Ricker did not visit him.

Ricker held a position in the mailing department of the big bank. At the time, his family thinks, he had \$90 or \$100 in his possession. No reason is given why he should seek to leave his home or to end his life. Accordingly, fears of foul play are entertained.

His habits have been regular—exemplary. In fact, that he should not return home Thursday, or that he sent no word of his intention to stay away, is thought peculiar. He remained unheard from until an early hour this morning.

Ricker is about 5 feet 8 inches in height and well built in proportion. His features are very regular. His hair is a dark brown, almost black, and eyes the same. He dresses in dark clothing.

He has a wife and one child. Word concerning him is anxiously sought by Mrs. Ricker, and by George L. Edwards, president of the brokerage firm of A. G. Edwards & Sons, and by Albert N. Edwards, attorney, with offices in the Rialto building. Both the latter are brothers-in-law of the missing man.

COOLER WEATHER PREDICTED.

Northwesterly Winds Will Prevail With Rise in Barometer.

Cooler weather is predicted to-day by Official Forecaster H. C. Thompson. The thermometer registered 52 degrees, the maximum registration since last Saturday. The thunderstorms of yesterday morning kept the thermometer down until 10 o'clock, when it rose from 79 to 86 degrees. A lower barometer prevailed all day yesterday because of the "low" that came in from the southwest. The passing of this will cause northwesterly winds, cooler weather and a corresponding rise in the barometer.

SOME JOHN A. LEE LETTERS ARE SAID TO BE FORGERIES.

Object of Expose. Friends of the Former Lieutenant Governor Say, Is to Discredit Testimony Which Lee Might Give Against Senators Farrish, Smith and Matthews—Documents Contradict Legislative Agent's Interviews—Serious Difference in Stories Concerning \$1,000 Check.

New York, April 10, 1903.

Robert E. Lee, St. Louis.

Pay all those advertising bills from the check I left with you for \$1000.00 and if there is any difference one way or the other advise me.

New York, April 10, 1903.—Robert E. Lee, St. Louis: Pay all those advertising bills from the check I left with you for \$1000.00 and if there is any difference one way or the other advise me.

Since D. J. Kelley, the anti-trust legislative agent, has given out for publication letters supposed to be from John A. Lee, the friends of the former Lieutenant Governor are beginning to cite evidence to show that Kelley is playing a game to discredit any testimony which Lee may give before the Jefferson City jury, which will try Senators Farrish, Smith and Matthews.

According to one friend of Lee, the prosecuting officers have in their possession a letter which Robert E. Lee, brother of John A. Lee, and who received the \$1,000 check from Kelley this year, has had since April 12 of this year. It was written five days after the information had been filed by Circuit Attorney Folk against Kelley for bribery.

The letter reads as follows: "Robert E. Lee, St. Louis: Pay all those advertising bills from the check I left with you for \$1,000.00 and if there is any difference one way or the other advise me. Yours, D. J. KELLEY."

This is in direct contradiction to the interview and letters which Kelley has given out for publication regarding the \$1,000 check. In one supposed Lee letter Lee is made to say that "I must have that \$1,000 to give him or I can do nothing whatever."

Another letter which Kelley claims he received from Lee says: "I am in danger, my friend, and you must help me quick. I want you to take the enclosed note and send me your check for it immediately." Both of the above letters were written in January.

In an interview in Toronto Thursday Kelley explained this check as follows: He (Lee) said that he had gotten into a fight with some one and he would have to give up \$1,000 to pacify him. I did not give the \$1,000 at once, but he borrowed it, I think,

CYCLONE MOWS A PATH THROUGH CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

Nine Persons Are Killed, Many Injured About Streator and Mendota.

PROPERTY LOSS IS ENORMOUS.

Amphitheater of Race Track Blown Down at Streator, Catching a Multitude in the Collapse.

TRAIN BLOWN FROM TRACKS.

Hundreds of Houses Wrecked and Many Families Driven From Their Homes Without Shelter.

Streator, Ill., July 17.—A tornado this evening killed five persons, injured a score of others and caused a property loss of \$200,000. The dead: LARRY FORT, NELS H. RIVINE, R. P. TULL, CHARLES SNYDER. Unknown persons.

All but Streator were killed at the race track, where new buildings had just been erected. Not a building is left standing.

All of the buildings at Electric Park were destroyed, and the fence and amphitheater of the ball park were blown away. Stauer's paint factory, a two-story brick building, was blown down, and all the stock was ruined. Fifteen persons were injured.

The Vulcan Western Company's plant suffered heavy loss. Purcell was killed there. The Indiana, Illinois and Iowa bridge, costing \$1,000,000, is nearly half gone, the hoisting works and buildings at Spring Hill shaft were ruined.

Many buildings in Kankakee, four miles west of Streator, were blown down and several persons were injured there.

Many houses were unroofed and otherwise damaged. Telephone and telegraph lines are nearly all down and details are meager.

BUILDINGS WRECKED.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Princeton, Ill., July 17.—A cyclone passed through the northern part of Bureau County this afternoon, damaging crops, farm buildings and residences.

The residence of Henry Smith, six miles north of Sheffield, was wrecked, and Mr. Smith and his sister were both badly injured, suffering from broken limbs.

The storm originated near Mineral and passed south of New Bedford and Manlius and on the northern outskirts of Lamotte. At the latter place numerous small buildings were wrecked. This was the same cyclone which a few miles further east at

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